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Brief Description of the Drawings

- FIG. 1 shows a representative configurable electrical device on which the disclosed methodology is practiced.
- FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing a simplified view of the electrical device of FIG. 1.
- FIG. 3 is a flowchart providing more detail regarding one embodiment of the disclosed warranty upgrade process wherein the upgrade warranty request is "user initiated".
- FIG. 4 is <u>an embodiment of</u> a block diagram of the warranty server employed by the disclosed methodology.
- FIG. 5A is a flowchart providing more detail regarding another embodiment of the disclosed warranty upgrade process wherein the upgrade warranty request is "automatically initiated" upon configuration change.
- FIG. 5B is a flowchart providing more detail regarding yet another embodiment of the disclosed warranty upgrade process wherein the upgrade request is "automatically initiated" upon first computer use or a predetermined amount of time thereafter.

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- FIG. 6A is <u>an embodiment of</u> a block diagram of a multi-processor server computer upon which the disclosed warranty upgrade methodology is practiced.
- FIG. 6B is an embodiment of a block diagram of the processor memory module employed by the server computer of FIG. 6A.
- FIG. 6C is <u>an embodiment of</u> a block diagram of the I/O module employed by the server computer of FIG. 6A.
- FIG. 7A is an embodiment of a block diagram of a blade server computer upon which the disclosed warranty upgrade methodology is practiced.
- FIG. 7B is <u>an embodiment of a block diagram of one of the blade computers</u> employed in the computer of FIG. 7A.

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FIG. 7A is <u>a</u> block diagram of a blade server which includes multiple blade computers (blades) 705. Each blade is essentially a computer on a card. Blades 705 are all coupled to a common network interface 720. In this manner network interface 720 acts as a network concentrator to avoid a mass of I/O and power cables extending from each blade. Network interface 720 is coupled to embedded server management (ESM) module 725 which detects the installation and removal of the other modules within the chassis, and monitors the environmental characteristics (such as thermal) of the chassis.

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Although illustrative embodiments have been shown and described, a wide range of modification, change and substitution is contemplated in the foregoing disclosure and in some instances, some features of the embodiment embodiments may be employed without a corresponding use of other features. Accordingly, it is appropriate that the appended claims be construed broadly and in a manner consistent with the scope of the embodiments disclosed herein.